

VOID ~~REDACTED~~

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2. The children in the OSMATDE in Kizil Orda were predominantly Russian, although there were also many Tatars, Uzbeks, Kirghiz, etc. Not all of the children were war orphans, some were children belonging to families whose parents were liquidated or in slave labor camps, others were the children of parents who were both drafted into military service, and still many others were children born out of wedlock. Very few of the children, whether purposely or otherwise, had names when brought to these orphanages. An example of the only record that went along with the few children [redacted] would be a card 50X1 attached around the child's neck stating only the child's name and that it was the son or daughter of a Captain in the Army, whose wife had died at birth. For a nation which professes to love children and whose internal and external propaganda claims that it is the friend of mothers and youth of the USSR and the outside world, the conditions [redacted] in these children's homes were 50X1 unbelievable.

This small amount is hardly enough to keep a child clean, certainly not an adult.

4. Besides being dirty, the children were also kept on a starvation diet.

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the children were never fed more than 1,500 calories of food per day, although they were supposed to be getting a minimum of 2,500* calories. [redacted]

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[redacted] the children were never given any fruit, vegetables, or meat. The daily diet, which did not vary except that after 1943 a little milk and sugar was added to the tea and a slice of butter for each serving of bread, consisted of the following:

- (a) Breakfast (8:00 a.m.): a cup of weak tea and 50 grams of bread
- (b) Lunch (noon): a bowl of soup (almost clear water with a few grains of rice) and one tablespoon of rice gruel
- (c) Tea (4:00 p.m.): a cup of weak tea and 50 grams of bread
- (d) Dinner (8:00 p.m.): a bowl of soup (same as lunch) and 50 grams of bread

5. The lack of toilet and laundry soap coupled with the near starvation diet caused the children to be completely covered with lice at all times. [redacted]

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[redacted] The children were literally eaten by lice, bedbugs, fleas, etc. To add to these unbearable living conditions, the OHMATDE and DETDOM orphanages were not heated at all during the winter months which are extremely cold in that area. Because the children lacked warm clothing, they were kept in bed for weeks at a time during the most severe cold spells. They just lay in bed motionless, their thin bodies blue from the extreme cold.

6. [redacted] the mortality rate at all of the OHMATDE in the Kazakh SSR was staggering. At the OHMATDE in Kizil Orda [redacted] approximately 400 children at all times during this period, yet the monthly mortality rate was well over 50%. The deaths resulted from the aforementioned living conditions which developed into diarrhea, pneumonia, furunkulez (furunculosis) and avitominosa (vitamin deficiency). There were no official statistics or records kept on the number of deaths. [redacted]

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7. The few children who lived through the four years of "care" in OHMATDE orphanages were both physically and mentally retarded due to their many illnesses and severe malnutrition. For instance, at four years of age the children were only starting to utter incomprehensible sounds, a good half of them could not walk, they had no control over their elimination processes (which only added to the filth and disease), and many were obviously feeble-minded. All of the children also suffered from konuktivit, which is an eye infection brought on by a combination of malnutrition and uncleanness. When the children awoke they could not open their eyes because of pus that had glued them shut during the course of the night. Their eyes had to be washed open first thing in the morning and bathed throughout the day. This condition also caused the children to rest their eyes by closing them for long periods of time throughout the day. [redacted]

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8. After 1944, the conditions within these orphanages improved slightly. [redacted] stopped getting so many war orphans, [redacted] the average number at Kizil Orda decreased from 400 to 150, and started receiving some "luxuries" from the US. [redacted] OHMATDE orphanage in Kizil Orda occasionally received new bedding, clothing, medicine, soap, white bread, butter, chocolate and sugar. [redacted] the lice and other vermin were still present, but in lesser numbers, and the deaths were somewhat less frequent.

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9. The conditions within these OHMATDE and DETDOM children's homes need not have been so bad if the Soviet administrators and workers within them had not stolen for their own financial gain, the major portion of the food, medicine and equipment allotted to the children. [redacted] the regional medical administrators of OHMATDE and the educational administrators of DETDOM children's homes diverted the biggest quantity of food and goods that were earmarked for the children, and lesser quantities were taken by officials and workers down the line. On the level of the individual orphanage, the ZAVHOZ (Zavedushiy Hozhaystvo - economic manager of the household), Det Sistra (children's sister - literal translation) and cooks

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stole their respective shares of supplies. Each day these people would take whole sacks full of rice, flour, soap, tea, etc and sell this to the local black marketeers.

10. After the US supplies started arriving, this practice became even more bold and lucrative. For instance [redacted] orphanage received a supply of eight new sheets per child, or approximately three thousand sheets. There was great rejoicing over this wonderful gift, yet within a matter of two weeks all of the new sheets had disappeared. [redacted] received three thousand pounds of US-manufactured milk chocolate, something that the children had never tasted in their lives. Yet, only once was this chocolate passed out amongst the children, each child being given only a small piece measuring approximately one inch square. This practice occurred over and over again, in fact each time a new supply of anything was received. The most despicable instance of this practice was [redacted] when [redacted] received a large quantity of a drug called sulfidin to treat the eyes of the children against konuktivit. [redacted] By giving this drug to the children four times a day for only four days to a week, the eye infection completely cleared up. [redacted] After the first few days, and the immediate recovery of some of the children, there were no further recoveries. [redacted] a sample of the drug to [redacted] a laboratory [redacted] analyzed. It was powdered aspirin and not sulfidin. [redacted] local blackmarketeers [redacted] were selling sulfidin for 200 rubles per gram.

11. [redacted] the parent, or parents, of some child whose whereabouts they had traced, through much personal hardship and misery [redacted] would show up beseeching [redacted] to tell them where their child was. Since no records were kept even in the case of children who were adopted by local residents or lived to be transferred to the local DETDOM, this was in effect the end of their search. It was a difficult task indeed to persuade a parent who, in most cases, was a Soviet soldier who just returned from the front, and who had in some cases traveled by foot from the western regions of the USSR thinking that he would be reunited with his child, that he need not search any further. They would describe their infants, as they saw them last, to each of the employees of the OHMATDE, hoping someone would remember and lead them to their child. It was difficult indeed to explain to these desperate parents why adequate records had not been kept and the reason [redacted] to persuade them to abandon their search.

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1500 metric calories equal 330 pound calories
2500 metric calories equal 550 pound calories

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